
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
DIVISION OF SPORT FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director – Division of
Commercial Fisheries
Charles O. Swanton, Director –
Division of Sport Fisheries



Contact:
Randy Bachman – Division of Commercial Fisheries
Richard Chapell – Division of Sport Fisheries
Phone: (907) 766-3638
Fax: (907) 766-2189

Haines/Skagway Area Office
Mile 1 Haines Highway
Haines, Alaska 99827
Date: July 12, 2012
Time: 5:00 p.m.

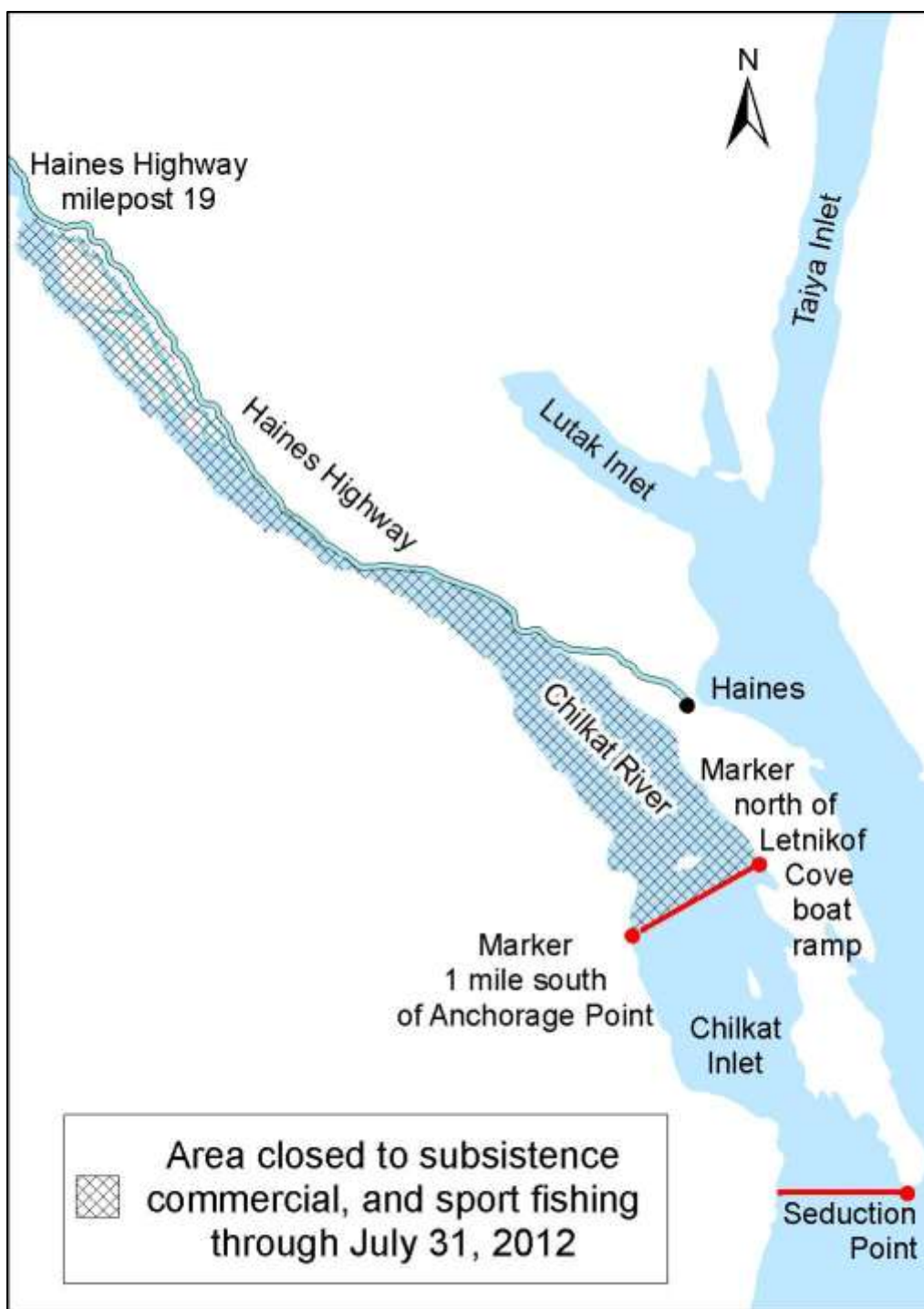
**NORTHERN CHILKAT INLET AND CHILKAT RIVER SUBSISTENCE AND SPORT
KING SALMON FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Haines....The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is announcing today that due to low abundance of king salmon in Chilkat River stock assessment projects, seasonal fishing closures in northern Chilkat Inlet and the Chilkat River in regulation will be extended from 12:01 a.m. Sunday, July 16 through 11:59 p.m. July 31, and the bag and possession limit in the sport fishery will be reduced. These regulations are in effect from 12:01 A.M. June 16, 2012 through 11:59 P.M. July 31, 2012 (see map next page).

Sport, commercial, and subsistence fisheries in Lynn Canal and Chilkat Inlet are managed under the directives of the Lynn Canal and Chilkat River King Salmon Fishery Management Plan (5 AAC 33.384). This plan directs the department to manage fisheries based upon the inriver stock assessment program to achieve an inriver run of 1,850-3,600 large (three ocean age and older) king salmon. The number of large king salmon captured by department nets and fish wheels through July 11 indicates a weak and late inriver run that is likely to fall short of the lower end of the inriver goal range.

The portion of Chilkat Inlet north of a line extending from an ADF&G regulatory marker approximately one mile south of Anchorage Point to an ADF&G regulatory marker directly north of the Letnikof Cove boat ramp, will be remain closed to commercial, subsistence, and sport fishing for salmon through July 31. The subsistence net fishery in the Chilkat River, excluding that portion of the river from Haines Highway mile 19 continuing upstream to Wells Bridge, will remain closed through July 31. The sport fishing bag and possession limit in the remainder of Chilkat Inlet, north of Seduction Point, will be reduced to 1 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length through July 31.

The action described above is intended to reduce fishery harvests of Chilkat River king salmon, help ensure the inriver run goal is achieved, and allow king salmon to reach spawning areas. After July 31, these regulations will expire and the northern portion of Chilkat Inlet and the Chilkat River will reopen to commercial, subsistence, and sport fishing. The Southeast Alaska regional sport king salmon bag and possession limits will be in effect in Chilkat Inlet and the Haines/Skagway area after July 31.



The emergency orders corresponding with this news release are 1S4012 and 1-KS-F-22-12.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220